

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) ONGC proposes to invest a sum of about Rs. 23,400 crores during the 9th Plan.

(b) The amount is proposed to be spent on survey, exploratory drilling, development drilling and production related schemes.

(c) A number of projects launched in the VIII Five Year Plan have been completed and some are in active stage of implementation.

(d) The projected oil production by ONGC during IX Plan period will be of the order of around 145 million tonnes.

Import of LPG

*96. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Enron have submitted any proposal for import of Liquified Natural Gas from Qatar and its sale in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects, and area to be catered thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Bio-Technology

*97. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the specific steps taken by the Government during the last three years for the development of biotechnology in the country;

(b) the achievements made in this regard during the above period and also during the current year so far; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for development of bio-technology in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c). During the last three years, concerted support has been provided for development of new areas of biotechnology covering transgenic research, seribiotechnology, human genetics, food biotechnology, development of diagnostic kits, setting up of a new Centre for DNA Finger Printing and Diagnostics, and expansion of the human resource development activity. A special effort has been made to develop biotechnology

based programmes for SC/ST populations and in different States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Haryana, etc. There have been many research leads available in terms of transgenic plants, diagnostic kits, and biofertilizers and biocontrol agents. More than 25 lakh plants raised from tissue culture are being planted in the field covering an area of 1080 ha. Tissue cultured cardamom has given 40% increase in the yield covering an area of 102 ha. Protocols for multiplication of economically important species have been perfected. Eight new biopesticide formulations have been developed and two pilot plants are producing biocontrol agents for the use by the farmers. For biofertilizers, 7000 experimental demonstrations have been conducted and about 6000 farmers trained in the use of blue green algae and rhizobial technology. Probes for sexing of embryos have been tested with 100% accuracy. The leprosy vaccine is under Phase-III clinical trials with encouraging results. Liposomal intercalated amphotericin B has been successful in clearing systemic fungal infection. More than 10,000 scientists are using the bioinformatics network, set up by the department. More than 30 demonstration projects have been given good results for the SC/ST population, benefitting about 15,000 target groups. Biodiversity conservation through molecular approaches has been successful in mangroves and in some parts of Rajasthan, and Gujarat. The gene banks for medicinal and aromatic plants have thousands of accessions and are also helping the farmers by providing high quality planting material of important species. Very close linkages have been established with state level institutions, universities, departments, voluntary agencies and other national laboratories.

The realise the full potential of biotechnology, a major thrust will be provided for bioproduct development, specially using the biological resources of the country. Mission mode programmes, research and development, and demonstration activities would be started in the emerging area of genome mapping, transgenic research, combinatorial chemistry, drug designing and drug development, prospecting of biological resources, developing of diagnostics for new infections, genetic counselling, setting up of genetic enhancement centres and micropropagation parks, etc. The necessary biosafety guidelines have also been evolved. Human resource programme would be expanded in other regions of the country taking note of the location specific requirements and training needs.

Agency Administering Freehold Property

*98. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of agencies currently administering the conversion of leasehold properties in Delhi into freehold;

(b) whether they have issued any notification to this effect;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the nature of objections received by the Government in this regard and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The following agencies are administering the conversion of leasehold properties into freehold in Delhi :

- (i) Delhi Development Authority.
- (ii) Land and Development Office.
- (iii) Rehabilitation Wing of Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (iv) Land and Building Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- (v) Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(b) and (c). Notifications have been issued by the concerned agencies and the same are based on the scheme launched by the Government. The detailed salient features of the notifications are given in the attached Statement.

(d) Objections and suggestions received for modifications in the scheme have been considered by the Government from time to time and modifications, wherever considered necessary, have been issued.

STATEMENT

The Salient Features of the Orders Relating to Conversion are as under

- (i) Conversion is available to lease which are residential and where land-use in the master plan is residential.
- (ii) The Scheme applies to built up plots upto 500 Sq. Mtrs. and below with variation of 1%, flats and tenaments allotted by DDA, tenaments allotted by Department of Rehabilitation, L and DO and flats constructed by Cooperative Group Housing Societies on lands leased by DDA.
- (iii) Free conversion is available upto plot size of 50 Sq. Mtrs. and ready built flats/tenaments having plinth area upto 300 Sq. Mtrs. One time conversion charge is payable, in the case of plots this is according to formula linked to notified land rates applicable on 01.04.1987. In the case of flats this is depending upon the category of flat and zone in which the flat is situated.
- (iv) In accordance with the latest instructions remission in conversion fee, on the originally

notified rates based on land rates effective from 1.4.1987, to the extent of 50% in the case of original lessees in rehabilitation colonies where first sale is exempted from payment of unearned increase and lessees are required to pay nominal ground rent of Re 1/- are available. Similarly, in the case of other lessees remission in conversion fee by 25% in respect of built up plots and 33-1/3% in the case ready built flats is available.

- (v) The scheme is optional and applicants have the option either to continue to be governed by the terms and conditions of the lease or to opt for conversion.
- (vi) Applicants are required to file an affidavit that there is no unauthorised construction.
- (vii) In cases where portion of the house is used for other than residential purpose additional conversion charges is payable which would be three time the normal conversion charges in proportion to the area put to other than residential use. Such area should not exceed 25% of the total floor space of 500 Sq. Mtrs. whichever is less.
- (viii) Conversion is also allowed in cases where property, transfer has taken place on general power of attorney, provided applicant has proper power of attorney from the lessees to alienate the property and the applicant is in possession of the property. In such cases surcharge of 33-1/3% on conversion charges is payable in addition.
- (ix) In cases of fresh allotment of flats, allotment is available on freehold basis and in cases of plots on leasehold basis and conversion of property to freehold once the plot is constructed upon a completion certificate or 'D' Form is obtained from the local body.
- (x) The conversion charges can be paid in instalment for a period spread over five years with interest of 12% p.a. In cases where applicant chooses to pay the conversion charges in instalment, during the intervening period the applicant is required to pay nominal ground rent of Re. 1/- instead of payment of Normal ground rent.

ONGC

*99. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has introduced a Superannuation Benefit Scheme for executive cadres from 1st April, 1990;